

CLERICAL POLICY;

OR,

A SHORT ACCOUNT

OF THE

IMPOSITIONS, ENCROACHMENTS,

AND REGULATIONS,

OF

The Rev<sup>d</sup>. William Wrighte,

CLERK in ORDERS,

OF THE

PARISH of St. MARTIN in the FIELDS.

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*To the R E A D E R.*

*I* *T* was my intention at the first, to have given a fuller account of the cases of the persons mentioned hereafter, than what I have done; but upon reflection, a bare statement of the fees, with an account of the Rev. Mr. Wrighte's alterations, appeared to me, to be the whole of what the public might think themselves interested in; therefore I have confined myself chiefly to that particular.

I am,



*Your humble and obedient Servant,*

*William Boyer.*

*Millbank Street, Westminster,*

*Feb. 16, 1784.*

## CLERICAL POLICY, &amp;c.

## SECTION I.

**A**S *Samuel Ealand*, the late Deputy Clerk, was the first who suffered by *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte's regulations*, and as some short account of his *case* will not only tend to shew *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte's* sacred thirst for gold, but also the ways and means which his policy suggested to him for the acquirement thereof; I will briefly touch upon it.

In the latter end of the year 1773, *Samuel Ealand* was appointed Deputy Clerk; and in justice it must be allowed, he was a person in all points well qualified for that office. After this, for some few years, alas, too few! the golden age continued; all then was peace and harmony within our sacred walls; each person then in peace enjoyed his little, with which he seemed content; no *Abab* then longed for a *Naboth's* ground, nor *Haman* was there found to meditate destruction. Our only struggle then was to befriend each other.\*

In the latter end of the year 1777,† *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* was appointed Clerk in Orders, in the room of *Mr. Horsley*, deceased. The Clerk's

A 2

place,

\* Such blissful scenes wounded the Gods below; they *Mammon* sent.

† *Peace*, daughter of *Heaven*, withdrew; and *Discord*, from below, with horrid aspect came.



place, which is a place of considerable emolument (whenever vacant) is appointed to by the then *Vicar*, and if he appoints a *clergyman*, he is called the *Clerk in Orders*.

The *Deputy*, who is commonly called the *Clerk*, never had any *salary* or *fees*, but officiated upon the chance of voluntary *donations*.

The *Vestry* have the regulation of the *fees*, and when the *Rev. Mr. Wrighte* succeeded, they stood thus, and were thus regularly divided.

The following respect the *Vicar*, the *Clerk in Orders*, and the *Sexton*; and they only are concerned in the participation, *viz.*

	s.	d.	Vicar.	Cl.inOrd.	Sexton.
Marriage by license,	10	0	6 0	2 0	2 0
Marriage by banns,	7	6	4 0	2 0	1 6

But by the *Rev. Mr. Wrighte's* amendment, they are altered and stand thus, and are thus divided :

	s.	d.	Vicar.	Cl.inOrd.	Sexton.
Marriage by license,	13	6	6 0	5 6	2 0
Marriage by banns,	10	6	4 0	5 0	1 6

The average number of *marriages*, in the church of *St. Martin in the Fields*, is about 420, or upwards, in the year; but taken at that number, the *imposition* or *benefit* to the *Rev. Mr. Wrighte*, by his own alteration, amounts to £.66 and upwards per annum.

For the above being a true *statement* of *marriage fees*, I do appeal to *Dr. Hamilton*, to *Mr. Dixon*, to *Mr. Este*, to *Brown*, the old Deputy Clerk, now with *Mr. Pugh*, silversmith, at the corner of *Spring Gardens*, to *Ealand*, late Deputy Clerk, and *Mrs. Washington* and *Mrs. Stephenson*, yet servants



servants in the church : I might likewise appeal to *Brown*, the bell-ringer, and to many others, were it not totally unnecessary in this to go farther.

However I must observe, that so late as 1782, early in that year, at an entertainment called the *Doct̃or's Christmas Feast* ; the *Doct̃or*, not knowing what his worthy friend, *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte*, had done, enumerated the *marriage fees* according to my first *statement*, in the presence of *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte*, of *Mr. Este*, of *myself*, of *Mr. Layard*, of *Mr. Mathew*, of *Mr. Harrison*, of *Mr. Hele*, of *Mr. Waring*, and of *Mr. Ackland*.

In June, 1782, *Dr. Hamilton* told me the *imposition* must be discontinued, and that he would have a *table* of the *fees* put up in the *Vestry* ; but *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* desired me to go on as before, and said, that he would speak to *Dr. Hamilton* about it. No *table* of *fees* has been put up ; what *weighty reasons* of *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte's*, induced him to forego it, the reader is to judge. I will proceed : *Publication of banns* stood thus, and were thus divided ; in this article the *Doct̃or* and the *Clerk in Orders*, are the only persons concerned in the division.

	s.	d.	Vicar.	Cl. in Ord.
Publication of banns,	1	0	06	06

But, by *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte's* alteration, stands thus,

	s.	d.	Vicar.	Cl. in Ord.
Publication of banns,	1	6	06	10

*A search* in the register is.—now 1s. and 4d. for each year examined ; this is *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte's* solely.

Certificate

*Certificate of a marriage* 1s. exclusive of the stamp—now 5s. 3d. exclusive of the stamp, and 4d. per annum for each year examined; all this addition for the sole benefit of the Rev. Mr. Wrighte.

*Copy of a marriage* 1s.—now 2s. 6d. and 4d. per annum for each year examined; all for the sole benefit of the Rev. Mr. Wrighte.

*Certificate of a baptism* 1s. exclusive of the stamp—now 1s. exclusive of the stamp, and 4d. per annum for each year examined; all for the benefit of the Rev. Mr. Wrighte.

*Certificate of a burial* 1s. exclusive of the stamp—now 1s. exclusive of the stamp, and 4d. for each year examined; all for the benefit of the Rev. Mr. Wrighte.

*Searchers Reports* stood thus, and were thus divided; in this article the *Deputy Clerk*, *Sextons*, and *Searchers*, were the only persons concerned.

	s.	d.	Dep. Cl.	Sextone.	Searchers.
<i>Searchers reports</i>	1	0	0 4	0 4	0 4

But by the Rev. Mr. Wrighte's judicious alteration, he takes the whole to his own benefit.

*Qualifiers*—Whatever arose from these, whether at the church, or at the courts, was the property of the witnesses, which were always the *Deputy Clerk*, and the *Sexton* in waiting, share and share alike; allowing to the *Clerk in Orders* 2s. 6d. for the stamp, which costs him 1s. 4d. no *Clerk in Orders* ever took more, except the Rev. Mr. Wrighte, who has taken the whole of what he can induce them to give at the church, for his own benefit; sometimes it is 2s. 6d. sometimes 5l. 5s. if he can possibly get it; the average may be

be 15s. If the *witnesses* get any thing at the *courts*, they have it.

*Naturalizers*—Whatever arose from these, whether at the *church*, or at the *courts*, was the *property* of the *witnesses*; which were always the *Deputy Clerk* and the *Sexton* in waiting, share and share alike, allowing the *Clerk in Orders* for the stamp; but *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* retains, for his own *benefit*, whatever he can induce them to give at the *church*; allowing the *witnesses* nothing but what they can afterwards catch below.

So much for the *statement* of the *fees*, I now proceed with *Ealand's case*.

Soon after *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte's elevation*, he forced *Ealand* to give up various parts of the voluntary donations, upon which his emoluments entirely consisted. The *encroachments* were as follow:

*Naturalizers*—Instead of dividing with the *Sexton* whatever might be given at the *church*, after paying the *Clerk in Orders* 2s. 6d. for the stamp, he was to give up the whole, except 2s. 6d. and out of that he was to pay 5d. towards the expence of the stamp.

*Qualifiers*—Instead of half of the whole, after the *Clerk in Orders* was paid for the stamp, always charged by him 2s. 6d. he was allowed 2s. 6d. paying 5d. towards the expence of the stamp; but if a *qualifier* gave more than 10s. 6d. he was allowed 2s. 6d. out of every *half guinea* he could induce him to give more.

*Marriages*—Instead of keeping whatever might be given him, *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* took from him



him, sometimes *half*, sometimes *two-thirds* of such donations.

*Home christenings*—Whatever might be given him more than 2s. 6d. he was to give to *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte*.

*The 4l. 4s. per annum* paid by the *Church-Warden*, for keeping the *register*, and for an *annual copy* of the *births* and *burials* of the *poor*, he was to give up intirely to *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte*, yet to do the Work.

*The Rev. Mr. Wrighte* had now greatly encroached upon several of his *Deputy's* donations, however he was not yet contented, but very wisely thought it would be much better to have the whole to himself, and therefore determined to discharge him; of which he gave him about a month's notice, telling him that the last day of *February*, 1782, must be the last day with them.

*The Rev. Mr. Wrighte* said he had many reasons for acting as he did; however he has not yet given any so far as I know, except, that about the middle of said *February*, he bid *Ealand* go tell his friend *Mr. Hale*, that he had lost him his place.

Thus was an industrious man, with a numerous family, most cruelly treated; and after nine years good conduct in his office, discharged.

## SECTION II.

In the following Section, it may be proper to speak of myself, as of a third person; lest the reader should call me an Egotist.

ON the first day of March, 1782, *Mr. Boyer* rented of *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte*, the profits of the *Deputy Clerk's* place. The whole of the benefit arising from the impositions in marriages, and in the publications of banns. One half of whatever could be got from *naturalizers* at the church, with the whole of whatever could be got, when their bills were passed; and 2s. 6d. certain, with 2s. 6d. more out of each 10s. 6d. of all that could be got from *qualifiers* at the church, with the whole of whatever could be got at the courts. One half of the benefits arising from all other impositions, that is to say, of certificates of marriages, of copies of marriages, of certificates of baptisms, of certificates of burials, of searchers reports, of examinations of the register, and of certificates of the publication of banns. With the half of a new sort of certificates, wherein the whole is imposition, such as of persons being alive, living in our parish, of good character, &c. Such was the farm rented.

It is undoubtedly necessary to give some reason for *Mr. Boyer's* hiring such a Farm. *The Rev. Mr. Wrighte* had now by his own authority brought in the impositions mentioned, declared

them right though he knew they were not ; and claimed all the money as his own, though he knew it was not. *The Rev. Mr. Wrighte* declared he was determined, not only to discharge *Ealand*, but also, to make something more of these matters ; said if one would not rent them another would be glad to do it, and made a great merit of his having given *Mr. Boyer* the refusal, rather than *Mr. Este*, who would be displeased he said, that he had not given it to him, for he knew he would be exceedingly glad to have it ; but that *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* said he did not mind. *Mr. Boyer* neither did, nor does perceive that he had any thing to do with *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte's* title to said *estate*, therefore he rented it ; knowing that *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* was responsible for all things, not he. How the person who lets an estate got possession thereof, respects not him who rents it ; whether justly, or unjustly, is no business of his. So far *Mr. Boyer's* defence. Now follows the *consideration*.

In *consideration* for said *farm*, *Mr. Boyer* paid to *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* £. 100 per annum, took care of his *clerical duty* and of all his other *church affairs* without charging him for it. *Mr. Boyer* likewise found a *Deputy Clerk* at his (*Mr. Boyer's*) own expence, to whom he allowed 1*l.* 1*s.* per week. *Mr. Boyer* was also at half the expence of stamps, and of printed forms for certificates. Also *Mr. Boyer* paid one *third* part of the rent of the Clerk and Sexton's office ; paid likewise for one *third* part of the coals consumed there, and one *third* part of the old man's wages who takes care of the place. Furthermore, *Mr. Boyer* was at all the expence



expence of pens, ink and paper, pencils, pounce, and wafers. Mr. Boyer was likewise under the necessity of resigning a small emolument, which he had from *the Viscountess Dowager Townshend*, upon account of the abundance of duty which Mr. Boyer then had upon his hands. Indeed, *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* made a point of it, on account its being evidently necessary.

The farm then stood Mr. Boyer thus in money :

To the Rev. Mr. Wrighte	-	-	-	£. 100	0	0
To Milton, the Deputy Clerk	-	-	-	54	12	0
The expence of stamps, and printing certificates				4	0	0
Pens, paper, &c. about	-	-	-	0	10	0
One third of the rent of the office	-	-	-	3	6	8
One third of the expence of coals about	-			1	10	0
One third of the old man's wages, upwards of				1	0	0
By the resignation of Lady Townshend's duty	-			15	15	0

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Total expence in money to Mr. Boyer, about £. 180 13 8

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In the course of the year begining on the first of March 1782, and ending on the last of February 1783, Mr. Boyer gained £. 42, being the reward of his labour. After this, Mr. Boyer held the farm five months, during which time his gains in proportion were double.

But before the end of the year, *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* got hold of the early and late Readership, therefore Mr. Boyer then became Deputy to him in that, as he had been before to the Librarian. This step was certainly very disagreeable to Mr. Boyer, but he had never held this duty in his own right; and lest he should make any stir about it, *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* said his only reason so doing was; that it was introductory to his succeeding the Librarian, which he hoped to do; that Mr.

*Boyer* should have the money as before, and consequently it made no difference to him. *Mr. Boyer* did not hope to succeed the *Librarian* against *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte*, backed by *Doctor Hamilton's* interest; therefore he sat quiet, though discontented. It should have been observed, that the *Librarian*, who is likewise the *School-master*, is hereditary reader. The grievance to *Mr. Boyer* was, that whenever the connection between him and *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* should cease, the *Deputy Readership* would likely be lost. However, *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* has been in part disappointed, as he has not succeeded the *Librarian*. But to proceed, *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte's* intention of taking the *farm* into his own hands, had from the end of the year being pretty evident, when he had seen the amount. He only waited for an opportunity of seizing *Mr. Boyer's* appointments at the same time.

Besides the *Deputy Readership* before mentioned, *Mr. Boyer's* appointments were, the *burials* at *Drury Lane*, the *Chaplaincy* of the *Work House*, and the *burials* of the *poor*; in these three *Mr. Boyer* was principal, being thereunto appointed by the *Vestry*, and the *Board* at the *Work House*.

On the 22d of March 1783, a dispute happened between *the Rev. M. Wrighte* and *Mr. Boyer*, about the register; *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* insisted, that *private baptisms* should be registered, the same as *christenings*.

*Private baptisms* ought not to be performed, but in cases of danger, and are always without *Sponsors*.

This

This was to give *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* a more plausible pretence for demanding the *fees* at that time; the *fees* are for *registering*, though commonly called the *christening fees*.

But long before this, *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* had very wisely ordered, that the fee should be demanded at the time of the *private baptism*, perceiving that many children died without having any thing more than *private baptism*. But his order had never fully obtained, that is according to his desire of its obtaining, for his orders run thus: If the people seem poor, or where there appears no likelihood of the child's living, always demand the *fee*; but if the people appear genteel, unless there is no probability of the child's living, do not mention it, lest it should displease them; but if they happen to be people of fashion, be sure you do not name the *fee* at all, but come away. But the misfortune was, that poor people, and even where there was no probability of the child's life, would refuse to comply with this unjust demand.

It may be proper here to mention *two politic regulations* of *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte's*; he found the *fees* for *home christenings*, 3s. 6d. (which is the common *fee* throughout *London, Westminster, &c.*) but *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* ordered that they should be 5s. very wisely judging it would be better. *Churchings* at *home*, by *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte's* order were also made 5s. but when he found this last regulation did not answer, he reduced the *churchings*, though at *home*, to 2s. 6d.

But farther, which shewed great wisdom, *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* ordered that even *churchings* at *home*, in such parts of the parish as lay on the other side of *Covent Garden*, should only be charged



charged 1s. 6d. lest the women should go to *Covent Garden* to be churched. The like order was given for such parts of the parish as lay beyond *St. James's*, lest the women from about the *Palace, Stable Yard, &c.* should go to *St. James's* to be churched.

But to return to the dispute about the registering of *private baptisms*, altho' *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* was obeyed in the money's being frequently then demanded, it was impossible for *Mr. Boyer* so far to debase the register, while in his care, as to enter *private baptisms*. For had that been done, many children (according to the register) would have appeared to have been christened, though they never had. And likewise duplicates of the same thing must frequently have happened; as for instance, *John Nokes* of *Richard* and *Mary*, baptized on the 22d of March 1783, and *John Nokes* of *Richard* and *Mary*, baptized on the 17th of July 1783; making it appear by the register, that the same persons must have had twins, baptized at different times by the same name, and that likewise without any specification of which was the first born.

*The Rev. Mr. Wrighte* is no great adept in church matters, yet he knew sufficient to see the impropriety of this, had not interest blinded his eyes. However, *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* very reluctantly gave up the point, upon *Mr. Boyer's* positively refusing to do it. But this so much displeased *the Rev Gentleman*, that he was particularly ill-natured for some days, upon account of which *Mr. Boyer* told him, that he wished their engagement might cease at the end of the month.

month. But *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* alledged, that giving up the farm so hastily was very ungentle and ungrateful; that he was not provided with a proper person to take care of the Register; and further, *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* threatened to take away the *Readership*, if *Mr. Boyer* persisted in giving up the farm. The fear of disputing this point with *the Rev. Gentleman*, and the desire of getting a little more money by the farm, induced *Mr. Boyer* to go on.

But *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* became every day more insolent, and indeed abusive, which is always the case with *the Rev. Gentleman*, when he supposes the persons with whom he has to do, are poorer than himself, benefited by him, or have not such good interest. *The Rev. Gentleman's* employment now, was to collect what instances he could of *Mr. Boyer's* freedom of living, and to report them to *Doctor Hamilton*. *The Rev. Gentleman* is likewise very fond of encouraging whisperers, and there were some at that time who imagined, that they would be benefited if *Mr. Boyer* was cashiered. Perhaps they have found their mistake. In the month of June 1783, *Doctor Hamilton*, *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte*, and *Mr. Boyer* had a meeting respecting *Mr. Boyer's* freedom of life; though perhaps most men situated as *Mr. Boyer* then was, might have been guilty of the same imprudence. The result of this meeting was, that no mention should be made of any thing that was passed, provided nothing of the kind happened in future. In July 1783, there was a second meeting upon the same business, the result of which was, that *Mr. Boyer* should

should stand upon his original ground, so long as he conducted himself well; since which time, neither *Dr. Hamilton*, nor *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* can alledge any thing against *Mr. Boyer*.

From that time *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* became remarkably civil, and desired that *Mr. Boyer* would continue his matters as before; complimented him from day to day upon his prudent conduct, so long as he, *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* stayed in town, which was until the 2d of Aug. 1783. On the said 2d of August, as usual, *Mr. Boyer* accompanied *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* to *White Chapel*; but that day *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* insisted on *Mr. Boyer's* dining with him, which was complied with, and they parted seemingly in the greatest friendship.

Previous to this, *Mr. and Mrs. Boyer* had received letters out of the country respecting a matter by which they were likely to be much benefited, therefore they judged it proper to go down to learn the certainty of it; particularly, as *Mr. Boyer* had then a very favourable opportunity, as a *Clergyman* boarded with him, who was intirely disengaged, and who had frequently assisted *Mr. Boyer*, by *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte's* approbation. The multiplicity of duty which *Mr. Boyer* then had upon his hands, and his frequent attendance at the *two Houses of Parliament*, and at the *Courts in Westminster Hall* and else where, made it absolutely necessary that he should have occasional assistance.

Therefore, on *Mr. Boyer's* return home, on the said 2d of August, he appointed *Mr. Simpson* to take care of all the clerical matters, and the  
*Deputy*



*Deputy Clerk, Milton*, to take care of the Register. And that each man might know his duty, *Mr. Boyer* made them enter upon their respective parts that very day, though he did not intend to leave town till the 6th; and they were to take care until *Mr. Boyer's* return.

But it appears, that *the Reverend Mr. Wrighte* must have returned to town, the instant he heard that *Mr. Boyer* was gone; for on the 8th or 9th of said August, *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* appointed *Mr. Hunt* in *Mr. Boyer's* room, not only to take care of *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte's* clerical duty, but also of all *Mr. Boyer's Appointments*, and to commence on the first day of September. Of this, *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* gave notice to *Mr. Simpson* on Sunday, (for *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* is very religious, and thought that good deeds ought to be done on good days) the 10th of August, and ordered him to acquaint *Mr. Boyer* with it, which *Mr. Simpson* accordingly did.

On *Mr. Boyer's* return to town, on Thursday the 28th of said August, he reassumed his duty, but on Friday the 29th he was informed by *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte*, that what he, the said *Rev. Gentleman* had done, was by and with *Doctor Hamilton's* approbation. *Doctor Hamilton* was gone out of town that morning, or else *Mr. Boyer* would certainly have waited upon him.

But *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* promised *Mr. Boyer*, that if he would make no opposition to what was done, *He, the Rev. Mr. Wrighte*, and *Doctor Hamilton*, would make a point of getting *Mr. Boyer* a good curacy in the country, which (as the *Rev. Gentleman* said) they both thought would be

much better for *Mr. Boyer*, than his then situation. Likewise *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* promised, that *Mr. Boyer's* quarter's stipend should be paid him up to the 29th of September, though the change must commence on the first.

On Saturday the 30th of August *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* left town, making *Mr. Boyer* the same promises as mentioned above. However, on Thursday the 4th of September, *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* returned to town, and for sometime seemed equally chearful in his promises as before. But about the middle of said month, *Mr. Boyer* being out of cash, mentioned it to *the Rev. Gentleman*, and desired to have his quarter's salary, which might as properly be paid him then, as on the 29th, as *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* had taken the duty of that month upon himself, and as he had promised without making any deduction for it; and his Deputy, *Mr. Hunt*, was then in the duty.

But *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* had now altered his mind, wisely considering it would be better for him, to deduct for his own benefit, one third of that quarter's income. *The Rev. Gentleman* was likewise cooler in his promises of a country curacy than before, though he still promised. However about the end of said September, *Mr. Boyer's* eyes were opened, by *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte's* declaring, that he would not do any thing for him. *The Rev. Mr. Wrighte* did not attempt to charge *Mr. Boyer* with any misconduct, or neglect of duty, well-knowing such charges were groundless, according to the agreement between *Doctor Hamilton*, himself, and *Mr. Boyer*. Unless, that  
the

*the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* said that, *Mr. Boyer* had abdicated, as *the Rev. Gentleman* was pleased to term it; though *Mr. Boyer* had left a *Clergyman* to take care of the clerical duty, of whom *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* had often said he approved; and had appointed *Milton*, the *Deputy Clerk*, to take care of the register, whose conduct was undoubtedly satisfactory, as *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* continues him in that office.

On the 2d of August 1783, *Mr. Boyer* seemingly had *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte's* highest approbation; on the 10th of said month, *Mr. Boyer* (in the person of his *Deputy, Mr. Simpson*) received notice of his discharge, and of the appointment of another gentleman in his room. Between the 2d and the 10th there could be no misconduct in duty, *Mr. Boyer* had done none; neither could there be any neglect, as *Mr. Boyer* had properly provided for all the duties; nor does *the Rev. Gentleman* say, that those whom *Mr. Boyer* had appointed, were neglectful, or misconducted themselves.

Thus was a *Clergyman* discharged from a situation in which he had spent very nearly *ten years* of the *prime* of his *life*, and during which time had performed more duty, in order to acquire a livelihood, than perhaps any *Clergyman* ever did. But *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* took this opportunity, of putting in practice his long pre-concerted intentions.



## SECTION III.

According to my promise, I will just mention *Milton's situation*; whatever *donations* he may receive, in *whatsoever shape*, (excepting what he may receive from *Qualifiers* at the *Courts*) he gives up to *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte*, though he is forced to beg it as if it was for himself; and as *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* has the *benefit* of all, after having got what he can, he always observes it is usual to give a *half crown* or something, as people like, to the *Clerk*.

*Milton's fixed stipend* is as it was in my time 1 l. 1 s. per week. He pays for his *lodging* £. 15 per Annum, which is price enough. His duty is more than doubled; his additional advantages are, whatever trifles he may catch at the *Courts*, subject to the payment of 2s. 6d. to *Sexton*, whether he *Milton* receives any thing or not. Indeed much is not to be expected, when *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* has sucked them at the *Church*, and when they have paid ten times the real demand.

But as *the Rev. Mr. Wrighte* wishes all under him to live in comfort, he has given to *Milton* the profits arising from the sale of the *Annual Bills of Mortality*; which in one year amounted to 13s. *The Rev. Mr. Wrighte* has likewise given him the ends of all candles, which have been twice lighted up for *funerals*; worth about 9s. per Annum.

## SECTION

## SECTION IV.

**I**N order to demonstrate the *wisdom* and *policy* of the *Rev. Mr. Wrighte*, nothing more is necessary, than just to shew how he has improved his *clerkship* in a few years.

In the beginning of 1778, exclusive of the *Deputy Clerk*, it was £. 200 per *Annum*.

In the beginning of 1784, exclusive of the *Deputy Clerk*, it is as follows.

<i>Proper Emolument</i>	-	-	£. 200	0	0
<i>Encroachments, respecting Qualifiers and Naturalizers, before Ealand's discharge, about</i>	-	-	50	0	0
<i>The half of Registerial Impositions in my time, about</i>	-	-	12	12	0
I paid him for the <i>Farm</i> , exclusive of finding him a <i>Deputy Clerk</i>	-		100	0	0
<i>Profits of the Farm to me after all out-goings</i>	-	-	63	0	0
<i>My own Appointments, now seized by him</i>	-	-	77	0	0
<i>By Encroachments, since my deprivation, respecting Naturalizers and Qualifiers, about</i>	-	-	30	0	0
<i>Encroachments upon the Sextons, since my deprivation, respecting the rent of the office, &amp;c. about</i>	-	-	5	16	8

In 1784, exclusive of the *Deputy Clerk* } £. 538 8 8

Here

Here is wisdom, whosoever readeth, let him consider; but let him not go and do likewise.

It is lamentable to observe, that oftentimes the richer a man grows, the more eagerly he thirsts after *wealth*; and often devises ways and means for the acquirement thereof, which most likely he never thought of, when in a low estate. According to *Doct<sup>r</sup> Hamilton's account*, the *Rev. Mr. Wright* was possessed of between £. 600 and £. 700 per Annum, when he came to *St. Martin's*; consequently he had not want to plead, in extenuation of his crimes.

WILLIAM BOYER.

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